

Production Conference

3-Sided v. 4-Sided Precast Structures

April 28, 2008

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3-Sided / 4-Sided Structures

- Both structures are reinforced concrete
- 3-sided structures are open on the bottom
- 4-sided structures have a solid bottom
- When sizes overlap both structure types may be specified on the plans



3-Sided / 4-Sided Structures

- 3-sided structures with spans ≥ 30 feet require a cost comparison with a bridge
- Headwall and Wingwalls are required for cost savings and permitting
 - Improved inlet can reduce culvert size
 - Reduces culvert length
 - Reduces Encapsulation to help with IDEM 401 permitting
 - May reduce/eliminate right-of-way needed



3-Sided Structures

- Available in spans from 12 feet to over 40 feet
- Require footers to support the structures since they have no bottom
- Require riprap to protect the footers from scour
- Can have a bend or curve cast into the segments



Types of 3-Sided Structures

- Con Span has an arch top and straight legs (3-sided arch top structure)
- Hy-Span and Tri-Span have flat tops and straight legs (3-sided flat top structure)



















4-Sided Structures

- Available in spans from 3 feet to 20 feet
 - Traditionally 3 feet to 12 feet
 - Sizes from 14 feet to 20 feet are recent additions
 - "MegaBox" CSR Masolite
 - "Colossal Box" Independent Concrete Pipe
- Footings are not required, the bottom supports the load
- Referred to as box culverts (RCB)



















Alternate Structures

- Typically require alternate materials for competitive bidding
 - 3-sided (arch and flat top) and 4-sided box
 - FHWA Requirements
 - Plan Requirements



IDEM Sumping Requirement

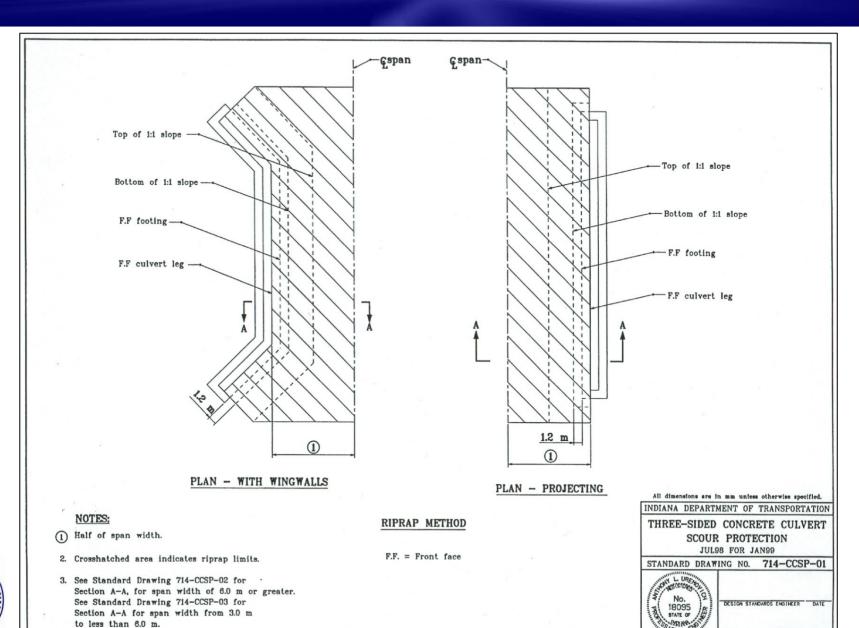
- Rule requires culverts with bottoms to be sumped 20%
- INDOT is currently meeting with IDEM to try to minimize the sumping requirement



IDEM Sumping Requirement

- 4-Sided require additional rise that is buried under the flowline
- 3-Sided requires a change to the standard drawings for scour protection



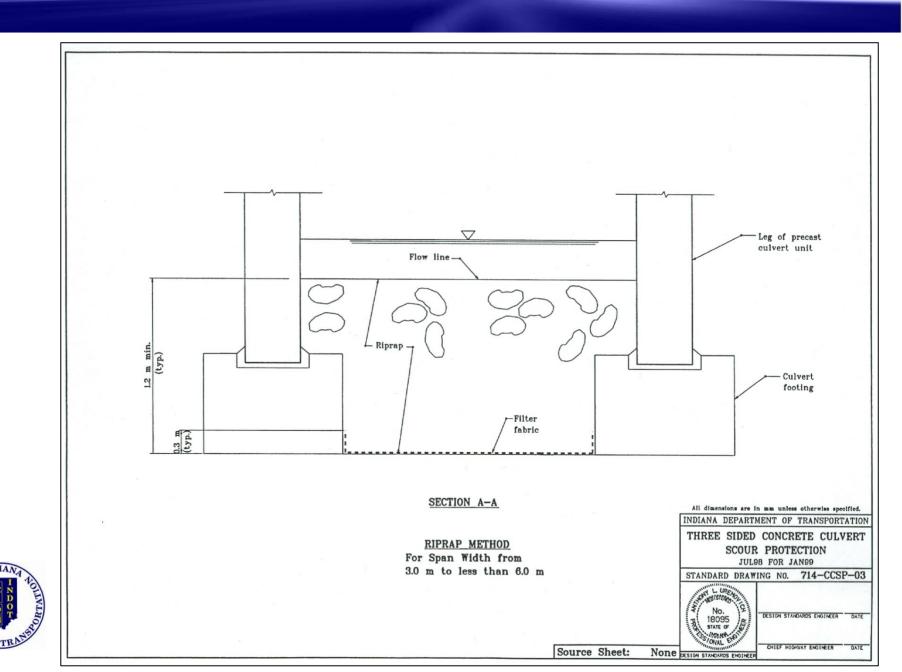


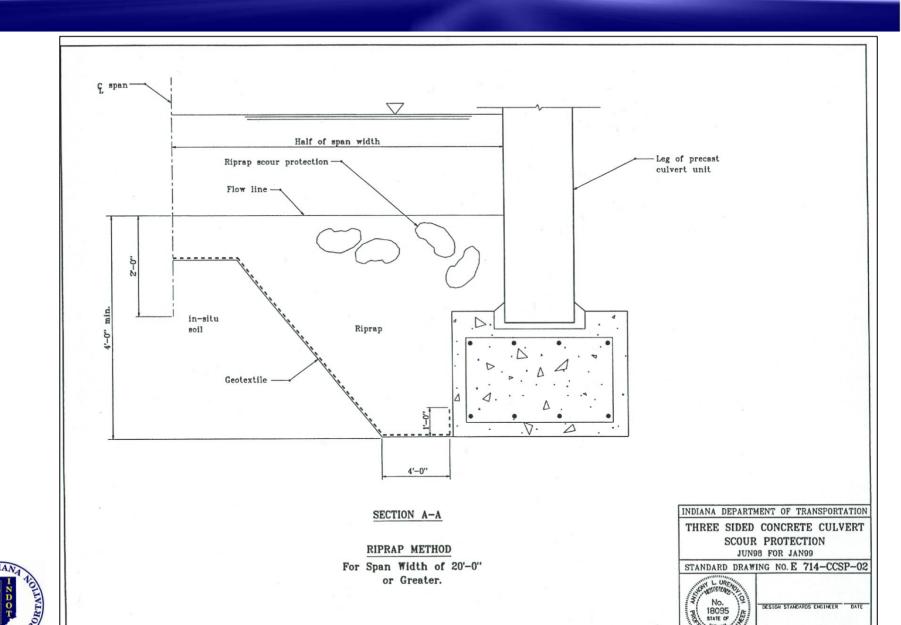
Source Sheet:

None DESIGN STANDARDS ENGINEER

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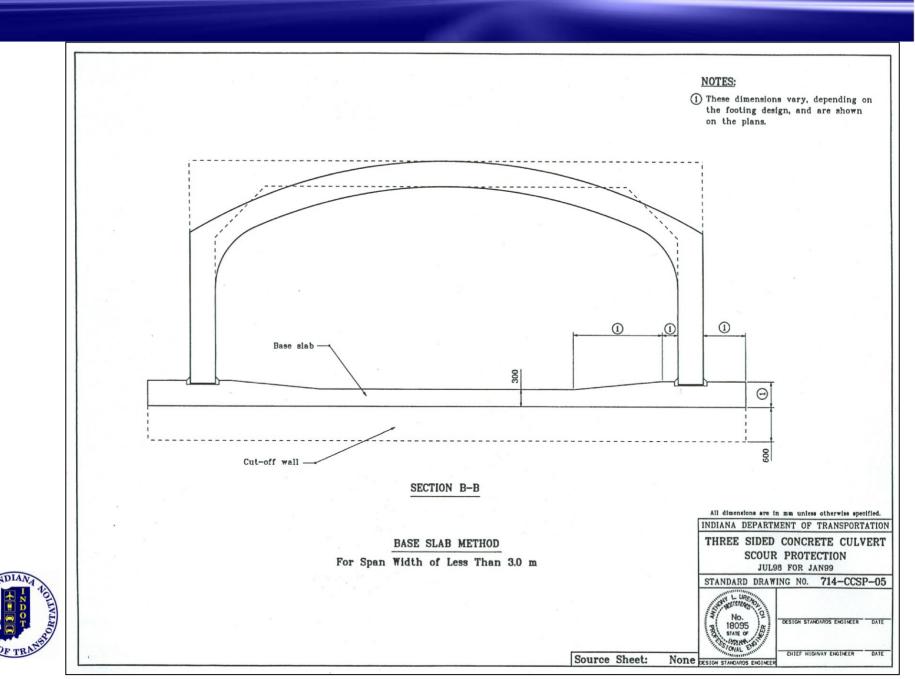


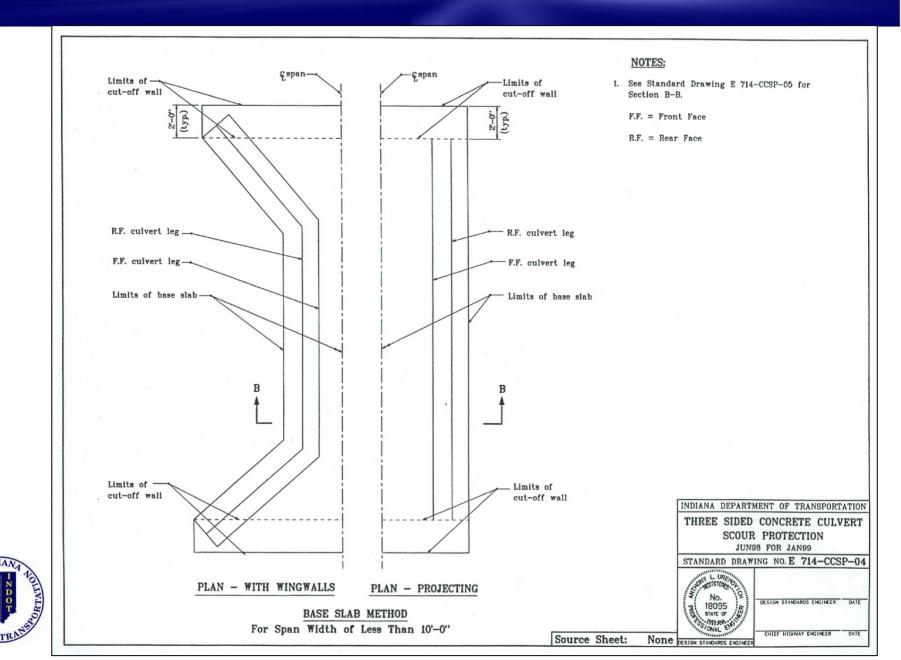




Source Sheet:

None DESIGN STANDARDS ENGINEER





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